

REPORT

Career Day

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Friday, Dec 2nd 2016

DKFZ, Communication Center

*Talks, round tables and
panel discussions*

dkfz.de/careerday



Sponsored by:



Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum,
Im Neuenheimer Feld 280, 69120 Heidelberg

8.30

Registration

9.00 – 09.15

Welcome and Introduction

9.15 – 13.00

**Project Management in Academia
and Beyond**

Project managers and consultants from
scientific institutes, hospitals and more

14.00 – 17.30

**Project Management in Industry
and Beyond**

Project and product management in
pharma, biotech and other companies

17.00

Get-together

Career Day: PROJECT MANAGEMENT Report

Program

08:30-09:00 **On-site registration**

09:00-09:15 **Welcome and introduction**

Project management in academia and beyond

09:15-10:15 **Session I**

- Tobias Schafmeier (Scientific Coordinator at Helmholtz Center Munich)
- Frauke Leitner (Scientific Project Manager at EMBL)
- Andriy Kubarenko (Scientific Resources Manager at University Hospital Bonn and IT/ Data Manager at ImmunoSensation Cluster of Excellence, University of Bonn)

10:15-10:45 **Coffee break**

10:45-11:45 **Session II**

- Dieter Weber (Project Manager at Jülich Research Centre, Consultant & Partner at Bond Consulting - Venture and Technology)
- Annalisa Zuccotti (EU Project Manager at CyberForum e.V)
- Johanna Wesnigk (Managing director at Environmental & Marine Project Management Agency, EMPA)

11:45-12:15 **Panel discussions I**

12:30-13:00 **Round tables I**

12.30-13:30 **Lunch**

Project management in industry and beyond

14:00-15:00 **Session III**

- Karin Mössenböck (Product Manager at Roche)
- Holger Hess-Stumpp (Director Strategic Alliance Management at Bayer Pharma)
- Björn Lamprecht (Market Access Manager at Roche)

15:00-15:30 **Coffee break**

15:30-16:15 **Session IV**

- Klaus Schoepe (Vice President Project Management at Rentschler Biotechnologie)
- Daniel Gau (Director External Ventures Management at Fresenius Medical Care, COO / Head of Business Development at Unicyte AG, Founder & Partner at Beyond Science)

16:15-16:45 **Panel discussions II**

17:00-17:30 **Round tables II**

17:00 **Get-together, snacks and drinks!**

Career Day: PROJECT MANAGEMENT Report

Background

The career day on project management (PMCD) took place the Communications Center at the DKFZ on 2 December 2016, and was organized by a team of PhD students and Postdocs together with the DKFZ Career Service.

Results

 marion.guerth
@marionguerth

 Follow

Daniel Gau "PM will 'hit' you at some point in any position sooner or later - be it either in academia or industry" #pmcd16 at #dkfz



 Tairi
@organizers_pmcd

 Following

Björn Lamprecht compares Academia w Industrie: the biggest difference is that you spend your Time in a meeting room, not in the lab! #pmcd16

 Danja Sarink
@danjasar

How to get a PM job? Get off your chair and annoy people! Be present and present yourself #pmcd16 panel

Career Day: PROJECT MANAGEMENT Report

Results: PMCD in numbers (Eventbrite)

Workshops

We hosted two workshops, by Dieter Weber and Susan Kentner, followed by a get-together in the afternoon of 1 December. A total of 68 people registered for the workshops, as we offered 25 places per workshop this led to a waiting list. We sent out a reminder to the people who registered, and invited 27 people to each workshop. Out of these, 41 people attended the workshops.

Career Day

A total of 273 people registered for the PMCD, 47 of those were 'late registrations'. 216 people attended the PMCD, 198 had registered through Eventbrite and 18 people registered at the registration desk on the day. Figure 1 shows the affiliations of the people who attended the PMCD; just over 50% of attendees came from the DKFZ, and nearly 30% came from 'other' institutes such as the university clinics.

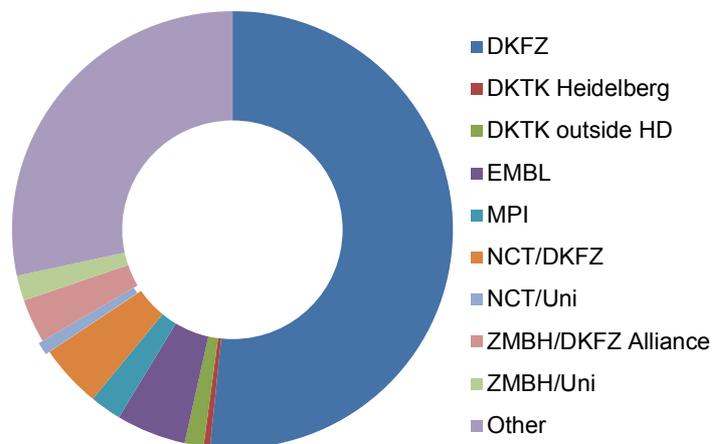


Figure 1. Affiliations of participants attending the PMCD.

Results: What did the participants think of the PMCD? (SurveyMonkey)

The PMCD was generally appreciated, as many participants thanked the Organizing team during the day and the survey prompted many positive comments such as:

"I expected short depictions of the daily work as project manager, but I received even more. Each speaker was a complete different personality and it was really informative to see their point of view. This was really helpful to get an overview. Thanks for this nice organized day."

"If the career day on clinical research showed me clearly that I don't fit as a CRA, this career day about PM motivated me to insist going in this direction. I think the career days are an exceptional opportunity to understand what fit us. Thanks"

Career Day: PROJECT MANAGEMENT Report

83 (38%) of the attendees of the PMCD participated in the survey which was open from 2 to 9 December. The background of the survey participants was quite heterogeneous, corresponding to the substantial number of non-DKFZ participants at the PMCD (see Figure 1). Career Days are organized with PhD students and Postdocs in mind, and as Figure 2 shows, they made up the majority of attendees of the PMCD though a substantial number of Master students joined the PMCD as well.

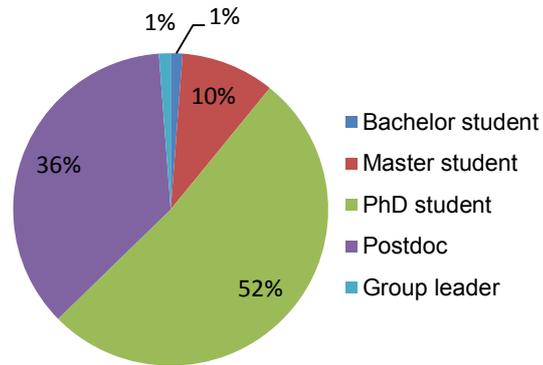


Figure 2. Survey question 2 – You are a ...

In the survey, PMCD attendees were asked to evaluate the general organization of the event. The event was really well appreciated, with 86% of participants stating that the day was informative and pleasantly no one went home empty handed (0% for “I did not learn anything new”).

Asking about the different aspect of the organization of the PMCD (Figure 3) most were scored positively, but the speaker’s profiles and help of the organizing team at the registration team stood out; 75% of survey respondents rated them as “excellent”. Other well received aspects include the information emails, Eventbrite, the balance of topics in the sessions, moderation of the sessions, the opportunity to talk to speakers and network (all ~90% “Excellent” & “Ok”).

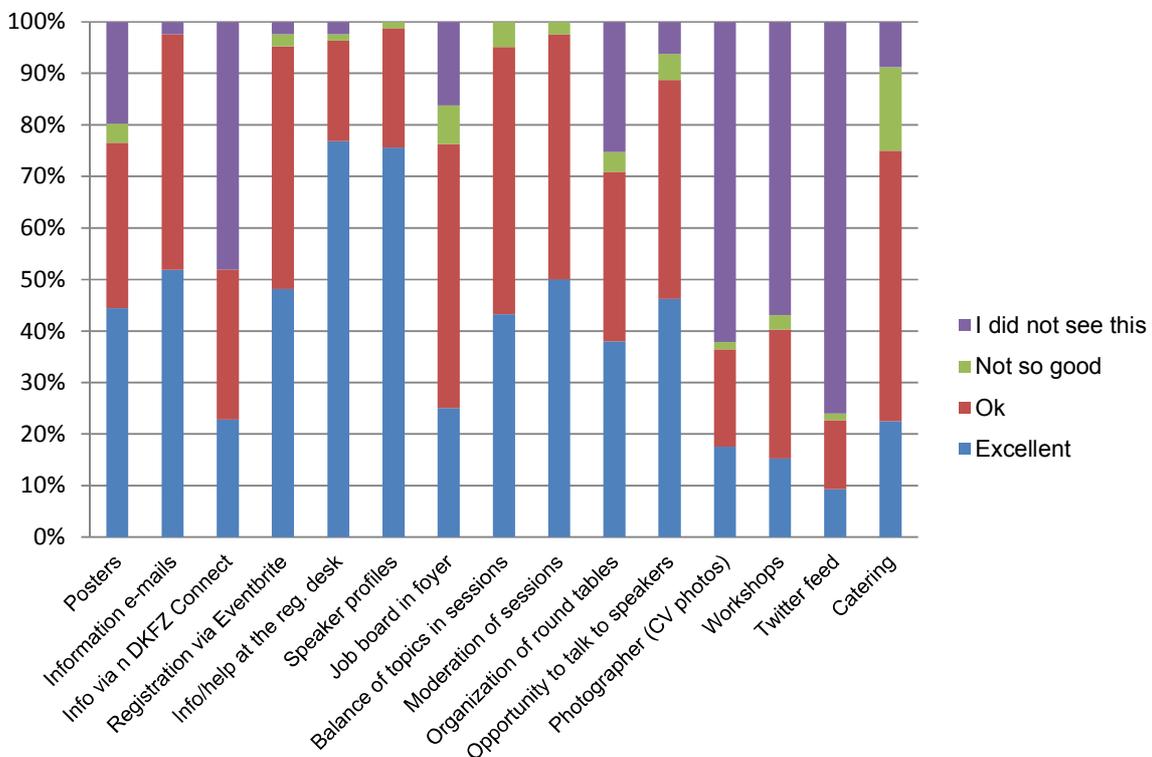


Figure 3. Survey question 5 – How did you find the organization of the event?

**Career Day: PROJECT MANAGEMENT
Report**

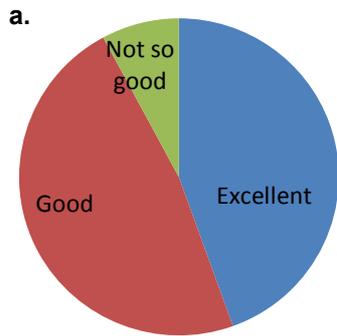


Figure 4. Survey question 6 – How did you like the information provided at the talks / panels? **a.** overall satisfaction **b.** satisfaction with specific speakers

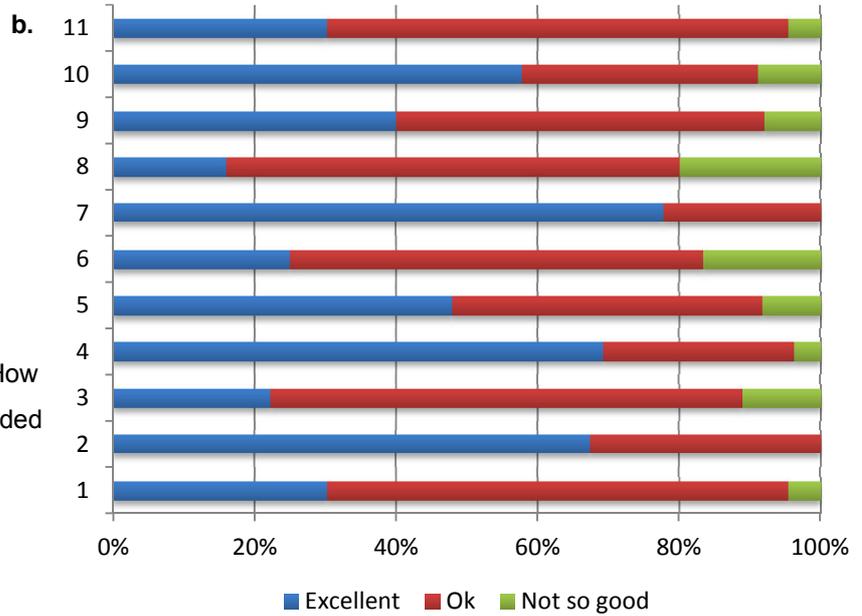


Figure 5. Survey question 6 – How did you like the information provided at the workshops?

We also asked about the content of the PMCD, which was also overwhelmingly appreciated (Fig. 4-6). The opportunity to talk to the speakers in small groups at the round tables (max. 10 participants per table at any given time) was valued, with well over half of survey respondents who attended round tables scoring them as “Excellent”. The talks and panel discussions were also appreciated, and rated as “Excellent” or “Good” by nearly 90% of survey respondents

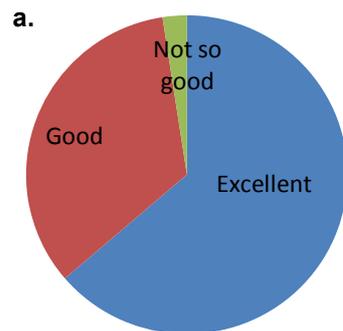
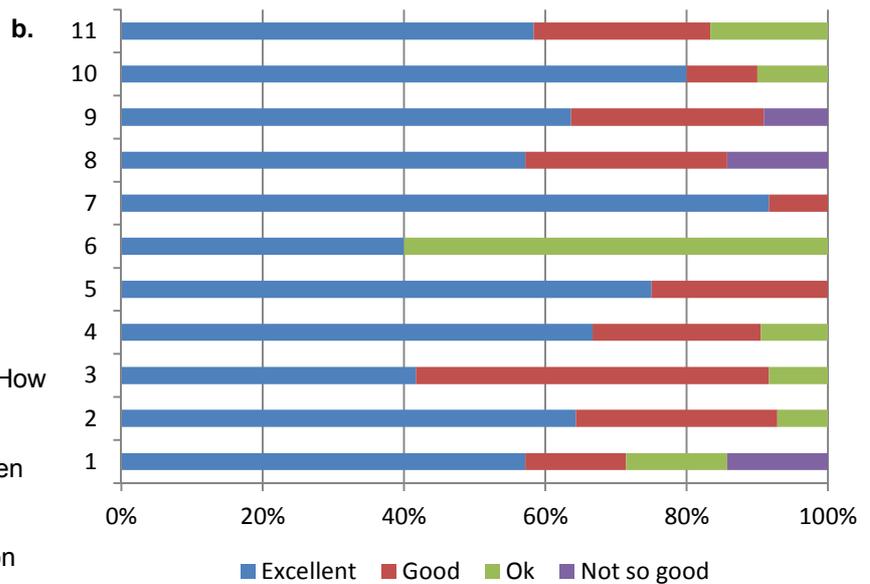


Figure 6. Survey question 7 – How was your personal interaction / discussion (at round tables / open discussion) with speakers? **a.** overall satisfaction **b.** satisfaction with specific speakers



Career Day: PROJECT MANAGEMENT Report

In general, the objective of the day was fulfilled: participants gained insights into project management as a career option, as well as an important everyday tool for scientists. Many survey respondents stated that project management would be a career option for them (Figure 7).

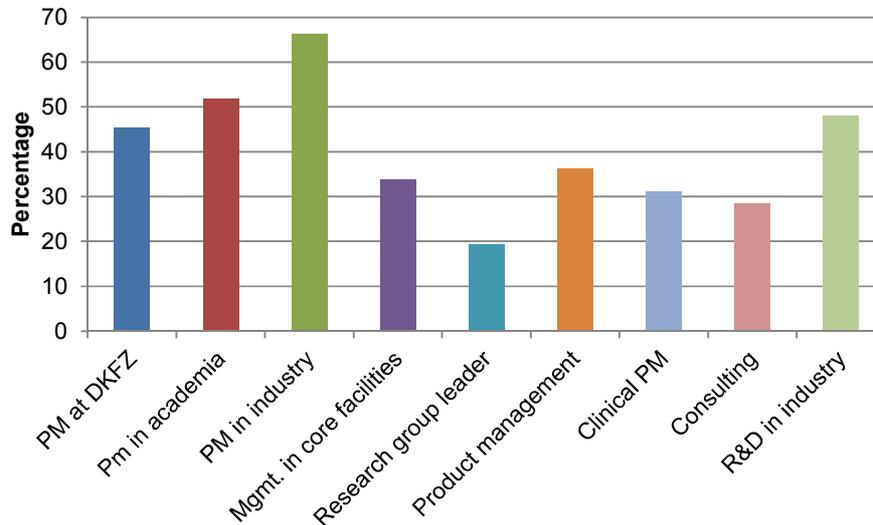


Figure 7. Survey question 9 – Which career options are attractive to you?

*“Having experience in management is more important than having a qualification.
Just have a go! Do something! Move forward!”*

In conclusion

All in all, we’d say that the PMCD was a success and were happy to see that participants were of the same opinion!

Merit not only goes to the enthusiasm of the participants and to us, the organizing team, but also the steering committee, who guided us through the process.

We would like to thank the survey participants for taking the time to give us their feedback; it provided us with useful information on how we did and ideas to improve future career days.

Finally, a big “thank you!” to Rentschler Biotechnologie, who sponsored the PMCD!



Career Day Steering Committee:
Barbara Janssens & Marion Gürth
(DKFZ Career Service)



And that's a wrap! Thanks everyone for a great #pmcd16!

Career Day: PROJECT MANAGEMENT Report

Addendum:

Twitter:

Find all Tweets related to PMCD2016 compiled to a storify at: <https://storify.com/phdcareers/project-management-career-day-2016>

All comments to survey:

What was your expectation and was it fulfilled?

- Mostly fulfilled. Would like to find out more about the day to day work and details on the different tasks (bringing examples)
- I was also expecting that it will also be presentation(s) about how to be a good project manager. But the talks, which were given, I liked too, it was very usefull to get to know about different possibilities in project management and how people get to these positions. I am glad that it was my first seminar/career day on project management, so now I know much more about this option and can think about other, related seminars and courses for building up the needed skills.
- I expected short depictions of the daily work as project manager, but I received even more. Each speaker was a complete different personality and it was really informative to see there point of view. This was really helpful to get an overview. Thanks for this nice organized day.
- My expectation was to learn a bit more about what's the project manager career about. My expectation was fulfilled
- The event fulfilled my expectations of geting knowledge about the experience of other PhDs and professionals
- Expectations totally fulfilled! One of the main reasons why I attended was because I wanted to hear how the speakers got to the position they currently have.
- networking; yes, I made some new contacts
- learn about job options in the idustry and the required skills – yes
- To get insight and entry options into careers in project and product management.

Further comments:

- The speakers very much advertised their own projects instead of their job description, also audience questions related to techniques/projects were allowed although shouldn't have. Moderator should have cancelled questions like that - topic was career in PM not how this platform/tool/... is available and how to use this...
- It was a really nice event and a good opportunity to think outside the box.
- I especially liked the questions to the speakers answered already beforehand in the booklet. The photographer was also a nice idea.
- Daniel Gau could explain more about his job, experiences, and not present the next even. This should have been presented by the organisation team after his talk, or he could also do it, but after his main talk about personal experience, not instead of it. Holger and Klaus could present their companies not so detailed.
- The morning session was more informative and interesting. Each speaker showed more personal ideas/impressions. The industry people represented more in general the company (in a really boring way) and talk only in general about the daily work as project manager. I would not invite Bayer again^^ However I enjoyed the selection of speaker. Thank you for that.
- Discussion was not very vibrant at the table, prepared questions from the organizers would have been useful maybe
- I liked all talks I saw, just one was a bit better than the others in my opinion... also the variety of topics is of course a bit redundant if you have speakers talking about a similar topic, but nontheless you chose the speakers well to highlight many different aspects!
- Klaus Schoepe provided information about a rather advanced position/leading position which was not very relevant to the audience who obviously don't haev the neccessary training or experieince yet. As an outlook it's surely good to mention the position but generally it would habe been wiser to present entry positions.
- Would be nice to have some information about the speaker, e.g. session, company, position, to remind us who the speaker is. Otherwise, people may be lazy and just put the same level for all when they can't remember who is who.

Career Day: PROJECT MANAGEMENT Report

- During a break, Frauke Laitner was holding very nice discussion about her job and career opportunities in project management. During the round table, Daniel Gau was doing a great job on answering questions and discussing different situations during job applications, it was very helpful. During the round table, Andriy Kubarenko was talking a lot concerning each asked question, and not always specifically about asked question, it was hard to interrupt him in order to orient the discussion in certain direction. This led to extremely long but not so much informative round table discussion
- Some speakers were not so advanced/professional, do they really have insight?
- Dieter Weber was a really talkative and open speaker. In the end he provided us with a short list of recommended books (for start-ups and project manager). This was really nice and a good idea to further think about this career path.
- I especially enjoyed her honesty and the fact, that she also admitted to having sent 50 applications before she found her position, that's encouraging for everyone who is in the same situation at the moment. Plus, since she was so "new" in her business, she still remembered how it is in the lab, maybe some of the others have forgotten, how that feels.
- No comment.

What was your take-home message from the career day:

- There are many options after Postdoc.
- Networking is very important and sales positions maybe not so bad. :)
- There are so many different options in the career way. I should not blind myself by only focusing at one thing.
- Project management not for me
- everything is project management
- That whilst I might enjoy PM in academia, definitely I don't want to do it in Industry
- Project management is an interesting carrier option.
- There are also project management options in academia, which I wasn't aware of. But these not necessarily help you to move forward to industry.
- if the career day on clinical research showed me clearly that I don't fit as a CRA, this career day about PM motivated me to insist going in this direction. I think the career days are an exceptional opportunity to understand what fit us. Thanks
- there are more career possibilities than we know. First you need to understand that you like, which skills you have, which one you want to gain, and according to that you can search for a job, or even create a job yourself.
- To be communicative is important as project manager.
- Project management has many facets.
- Everyone has to choose his own way! there is not a general rule.
- I want to be a project manager :D
- Networking!
- Very diverse field for job opportunities. No direct path to that career.
- There are several possibilities. Do not underestimate jobs on the basis of their "reputation" in the academic field.
- PM is a good career alternative.
- different options should be considered more seriously
- Just apply.
- If you want, get in industry asap We will find our way through our career
- Plenty of career options are available for scientists. It's pretty hard to know what one exactly wants and how to find/get to it.
- A PhD is only a temporary transition
- My capitalistic ideas will sell well out of the scientific environment.
- Communication is the most important skill!
- not sure if this is something for me
- Everyone of us can be a manager, but not everybody a professional project manager
- I learned about a career option I had no real clue of. I also realized that project management might not be the perfect choice for me, but that was important, too. On the other hand I was really fascinated by the product management talk and will try to get more information about this option now.
- Project management is a good career opportunity if you have organization, communication and planning skills
- Pursue what you like/want to do
- Be open-minded. Personality matters!

Career Day: PROJECT MANAGEMENT Report

- Many options in Project management, yet, requirements are quite similar.
- A project management job in academia or other non-profit oriented institutions is definitely sth. for me.
- Project management is "learning by doing" job position. It is crucially important to have good organisational, communicational and intra-cultural skills if you consider this career path.
- To get a job one needs experience, to get experience one needs a job.
- Project Management is a career option with many different kind of jobs
- Project manager is an alternative way after my scientific career
- Project Management is needed everywhere
- project management is an interesting but difficult to enter field
- I can imagine becoming a project manager
- Project management might be an option for me
- Everything is a Project, Project management is not a discrete job description
- Broad spectrum of jobs is possible to explore in and outside of academia. Communication, being open-minded, curious, no shy and willing to learn new things seem to be the ingredient to have success in the own job.
- That project management will cross your path one way or the other and that it's worth training project management skills.
- Best career day so far.
- I would personally prefer to follow more bench-directed position in academia.
- i have a broader possibilities to develop my career
- Do not be afraid to try and the importance of the networking.
- It takes some time to find your dream job. And the personality and the soft skills are very valuable
- The experience in management is more important than any course. The importance of your skillset. Just go on and try!!! Do something!! Move forward!!!
- Project Management is diverse and interesting
- Only by attending the workshop I realize that most project management work required work experience.
- Passion never Fails! Communication skills and how to present yourself is most important
- It was quite informative, and it was given some idea how to improve job application
- Make things happen! If you want to change something then do it. And talk... a lot!
- You need to decide very early if you want to move to industry, otherwise you can't switch anymore
- Learning by doing PM, importance of networking and communication
- project management is really a variety of different jobs/fields and absolutly interesting
- got better insight into the project manager job requirements
- Project management in Academia is for communicative people, in Industry it's very diverse
- Don't take project management as a Plan B and don't be afraid
- it's hard to find a job but don't give up
- Just try it
- That you can be positive to pursue different career interests without fearing that you have to leave leave science for good.
- If you enjoy it, apply!
- The skills of a good manager
- From the first group of speakers (the academia manager) I took home that if I'm really interested and willing to do a job as a academic project manager, it is possible! And there are many ways to get there and to go from there further in my carreer. From the industry group I learned that everything is much more regulated and that you need to work in the company first to get a job as project manager at that it is much harder to get in there and in my opinion not worth it. The talks of the academia group were much more interesting and diverse than the ones from the industry group.
- No comment.
- Project management will not be my number 1 choice
- I am a master thesis student that do not want a career in science. My take home message is that there exists a future for me as well. And I finally think that I have found something that I would be good at
- That project management is something that is going to be included in my job, no matter what career option I choose
- Planning is all about replanning.
- Just try it, it might work.
- Project Management in Academia does not open the door for PM in industry
- be honest to yourself
- look for product management jobs in future as well
- Pay attention to my own interest and strength. Explore whenever possible.
- Project management is more interesting and versatile than I thought